



INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE ORGANIZATION

**General regulations:
Primary Years Programme**

General regulations: Primary Years Programme

Article 1: Role and responsibilities of schools

- 1.1 The International Baccalaureate Organization (hereinafter “IBO”) has developed the Primary Years Programme (hereinafter “PYP”) as an inclusive programme aimed at students in the 3–12 age group.
- 1.2 The IBO has established a curriculum framework and assessment guidelines and requirements as well as standards and practices for the implementation of the PYP.
- 1.3 Because the IBO is not a teaching institution and does not provide teaching services to students, the PYP is implemented and taught by authorized or candidate schools (hereinafter the “school(s)”). The schools are private or state entities, all of which are entirely independent from the IBO and solely responsible for the implementation and quality of teaching of the PYP. Consequently, the schools bear sole responsibility to students and legal guardians for any shortcomings in the implementation or quality of teaching of the PYP. The IBO is excluded from any responsibility in such shortcomings.
- 1.4 The schools are responsible for informing legal guardians regarding the general characteristics of the PYP and how the school implements it.
- 1.5 The IBO cannot guarantee that a school will remain capable and willing to implement the PYP. Consequently, the schools bear sole responsibility to students and legal guardians if, for any reason, a candidate school does not become authorized by the IBO or a school’s authorization to implement the PYP is withdrawn by the IBO or a school decides to terminate its authorization. The IBO is excluded from any responsibility for any sunk costs and/or lost opportunities suffered by students as a result of the PYP no longer being taught by a school.

Article 2: Content and implementation of the programme

- 2.1 A primary school, or primary section of a school, must offer the PYP as an inclusive programme for all students.
- 2.2 The schools must implement the PYP in conformity with *Making the PYP happen* (the curriculum framework issued by the IBO for the schools), and the current *PYP coordinator’s handbook* (the procedures manual issued by the IBO for schools).
- 2.3 The teaching and learning in the PYP are predominantly in the context of transdisciplinary themes and through the pedagogy of inquiry that promotes the construction of meaning by students.
- 2.4 Schools must provide instruction in the learning of a language other than the principal language of instruction of the school from the age of at least seven. Bilingual/dual-language schools are not required to offer a third language to their students.
- 2.5 The schools carry out all teaching and assessment alone without any intervention or supervision from the IBO. This includes the assessment of each student’s development in the areas described in the IB learner profile and of each student’s learning as demonstrated during the PYP exhibition in the final year of the programme.
- 2.6 The IBO does not award any form of diploma or certificate in connection with the PYP.
- 2.7 Legal guardians must use the school’s PYP coordinator as the intermediary for any communication with the IBO.

- 2.8 If legal guardians have any questions regarding the general content (curriculum and philosophy) of the PYP or how a school implements it, they must address themselves to the school's PYP coordinator.

Article 3: Use of materials produced by students

- 3.1 Students produce materials in a variety of forms during the course of their schoolwork, including all kinds of written work, audio and visual materials and, in certain cases, materials containing images of the students (hereinafter the "materials"). From time to time, the IBO may ask schools for samples of these materials to use for educational, training, and/or promotional purposes in relation to the IBO's activities or those related activities of which it approves.
- 3.2 Upon students entering the PYP, schools should ask legal guardians to indicate in writing whether they agree to their child's materials being submitted to the IBO from time to time for educational, training and/or promotional purposes or those related activities of which it approves.
- 3.3 By providing written consent to the schools, legal guardians are granting to the IBO a non-exclusive, charge-free, worldwide licence, for the duration of the statutory copyright protection, to reproduce the materials in any medium for the uses above (see paragraph 3.1).
- 3.4 Where the IBO uses these materials, it may modify, translate or otherwise change them to meet particular needs and, in order to protect the identity of the student and of the school, will anonymize them before publication in print or in electronic form.

Article 4: Governing law

Swiss law governs these *General regulations: Primary Years Programme*.

Article 5: Arbitration

Any dispute arising from or in connection with these *General regulations: Primary Years Programme* shall be finally settled by one arbitrator in accordance with the *Swiss Rules of International Arbitration* of the Swiss Chambers of Commerce. The seat of the arbitration shall be Geneva, Switzerland. The proceedings shall be confidential and the language of the arbitration shall be English.

Article 6: Entry into force and transitory rules

This version shall come into force on 1 September 2006 for June session schools or 1 January 2007 for December session schools. The IBO may amend these *General regulations: Primary Years Programme* from time to time.

Geneva, 1 May 2006

